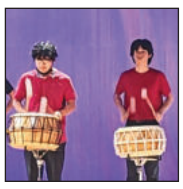
GREENBELT
News Review
An Independent Newspaper

Inside Stories

ERHS basketball, p.11



Korean showcase at ERHS, p.7

VOL. 89, No. 17 | 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887 | MARCH 19, 2026

Goddard Library Closure Paused As Lawsuit Fights to Keep It

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) was home to NASA's largest research library. Then its services and operations were paused on December 9 for a 60-day review and less than half-way into that period, on January 2, the agency announced the library's closure, shuttering the physical space (see the January 8 issue). The library closure is now the subject of a lawsuit and the divestment of its materials has been halted until April. The News Review spoke with Zachary Weil, a lawyer for the plaintiffs in the case.

PHOTO BY SOURCE AT NASA GSFC

A view from the window into the Goddard Space Flight Center Library as it looked on February 4 and 5

One plaintiff, David Williams, is a recently retired planetary scientist. Another plaintiff, Giovanni de Amici, is a current employee working in observational astrophysics and cosmology and another plaintiff is the Goddard Engineers, Scientists and Technicians Association (GESTA) (Goddard's union.)

"What the plaintiffs are really concerned about in this case is the opaqueness of the decision," says Weil. "It's not grounded in any sort of reasonable explanation that justifies the closure," he alleges. Weil notes that in early January NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman said that the move is in keeping with the ongoing consolidation effort and the 20-year Master Plan begun in 2022. As the News Review has reported, that's the document that has been pointed to as justification for expedited closures of buildings on the campus (see the September 24, 2025 issue). However, the Master Plan makes no reference to the permanent closure of Building 21, where the library was housed, nor to the closure of the library itself. In fact, far from being part of a long-term plan, the closure violates an agreement with GESTA to keep the library open. When NASA's administration attempted to close the library before, in 2011, the move resulted in an Unfair Labor Practice Charge

See **LIBRARY**, page 6

David W. Lange Dies at 90; Began Projects at Work, Home

David William Lange, age 90, died March 6, 2026; he battled aspiration pneumonia for 10 years following radiation treatment for throat cancer. David was born on December 5, 1935 in Minneapolis, Minn. He was the middle son of Frederick and Leila Benedict Lange. He studied mathematics.

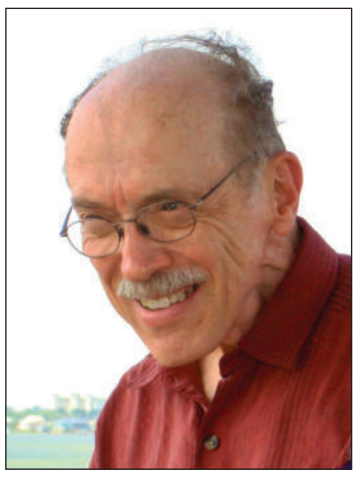


PHOTO COURTESY SANDRA LANGE

David Lange

David was employed by the National Security Agency (NSA) for 39 years, from 1957 to 1995, including two years as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army. In the early 1960s, he created and managed The Analytic System, a small computer that gave immediate results to its analyst-users. He helped develop computer standards for the Department of Defense and was presented with the National Intelligence Certificate of Distinction in 1996 by the Director of Central Intelligence.

Dedicated Greenbelter

David enjoyed living and participating in Greenbelt organizations for more than 50 years – sometimes as an attendee, sometimes as a civic leader. Greenbelt's Labor Day Festival was especially important to him. He wrote the initial festival bylaws to broaden civic activism. He took on the role of Disaster Chairman when the festival encountered logistical or other problems. He created the Outstanding Citizen Award. David served two terms on the GHI Board of Directors in the 1970s.

When several Maryland savings and loan financial institutions were closed abruptly in 1985, David was asked to chair a public meeting to share information. This quickly evolved into forming a statewide depositors' organization, as well as numerous public meetings and rallies. When

See **LANGE**, page 8

Springhill Lake School Plans Shared at Town Hall Meeting

by Laura Charleston

On Thursday, March 12, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) officials and project designers shared updated plans for replacing Springhill Lake Elementary School (SHLES), an $82 million construction project expected to be completed in 2028.

ARCHITECTS' RENDERING COURTESY PGCPS

Springhill Lake Elementary School is being replaced with a new two-story, 102,837-square-foot facility as part of the Blueprint Schools Phase II initiative. The project follows a public-private partnership (P3) model with a total budget of approximately $82 million.

The new school will replace the current building with a two-story facility on the same ground. It will feature accessibility for students with mobility needs, versatile room usage, playgrounds for different age groups as well as a parking lot for parent and bus drop-off and pick-up, to name a few improvements.

"Our commitment to you, the Springhill Lake community, PGCPS is committed to moving swiftly to deliver a safe, state-of-the-art and sustainable learning environment for our students, teachers and communities," said Sean Matlock, director of the Office of Alternative Infrastructure, Planning and Development at PGCPS.

The new building is designed by the architectural firm Perkins Eastman, and construction will be led by MCN Build, which is serving as both general contractor and project manager.

The design includes two main entrances. The primary entrance will face Springhill Drive, while a secondary entrance at the rear will be used for parent pick-up and drop-off. Jack Chin, Associate Principal at Perkins Eastman, said this design should help reduce pick-up and drop-off traffic on nearby streets.

The cafeteria will double as a performance space, creating a "cafetorium" that can host assemblies, school performances and community events.

Design changes are coming with the new building. Classrooms will feature flexible furniture and tall ceilings designed to increase natural light. Hallways will be

See **SPRINGHILL LAKE**, page 7

What Goes On

Monday, March 23
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, FY 2027 Proposed Budget Presentation, Municipal Building
Wednesday, March 25
7:30 p.m., Legislative Priorities Update, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

Residents Press Carriers on Cell Service Gaps at City Town Hall

by Stephen Lotz

On Tuesday, March 10, frustrated residents pressed wireless carriers and city officials for answers about persistent cellular coverage problems during a meeting focused on improving service across Greenbelt, particularly in the Ridge Road and Plateau Place areas where many residents say signals are unreliable.

Representatives from T-Mobile and Verizon met with roughly 30 residents and city staff to explain how cellular networks function, what may be causing service gaps and what potential fixes could look like in the short- and long-term. While some adjustments may be possible in the coming months, carrier representatives said building new infrastructure to address coverage gaps can take one to two years. "We have dedicated teams that look at network performance," the Verizon representative said during the meeting. "If we have to build a new site, then we're talking a year to two years." The Verizon representative requested he not be named.

The Problems

Residents described frequent dropped calls and weak signals throughout parts of the city, particularly in the Ridge Road corridor and near the city center. Several residents said the coverage gaps affect everyday communication and can create anxiety during emergencies.

Councilmember Frankie Fritz said they have experienced the issue firsthand and worry it could affect teleworkers and visitors who rely on mobile service. "I'm better off waiting outside the city

See **CELL SERVICE**, page 12

PHOTO BY STEPHEN LOTZ

Representatives from Verizon and T-Mobile speak with residents at the March 10 town hall.

Letters to the Editor

In View from Bridge See Your Neighbors

In the interests of full disclosure, I wanted to let you know right away, that, I, Penny Martin, designed the sound for the Greenbelt Arts Center production of Arthur Miller's A View from the Bridge.

I, of course, noticed right away that a couple of the production folks were pretty near Greenbelt neighbors of ours (I mean, like, "down the street close," not like "close, if you don't mind a good hike," type close).

However, it wasn't until I had a good look at the show program, that I realized just how many talented people from my neighborhood had been involved in making the production a success.

When I finished tallying all the Greenbelters involved, I came up with an astonishing nine people: Stephen Cox (director), Alan Duda (producer), Ann Barrett-Lowe (dramaturg), Jaki Demarest (graphic design), me (sound design), Rachel Zirkin Duda (photography), Stephen Duda (assistant stage manager), Jim Adams (Eddie) and Brett Fishburne (Alfieri).

So, whether you're walking down the street or buying veggies at the Co-op, you never know when you'll cross paths with a neighbor, who just might be one of the people who helped bring the current production to life.

Haven't seen A View from the Bridge yet? You can still catch a performance. There are two more shows on Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21 at 8 p.m.

Penny Martin

Data Centers

Very thankful for the lengthy article on data centers last week. I want to add that the backup generators are the size of tractor trailers and use diesel fuel to run. It is a very harmful fuel for our environment. An 820 MW data center as proposed for Landover would have 275-470 backup generators and would burn through 1.4 to 2.4 million gallons in 24 hours (according to calculations made by a concerned Prince George's County resident using industry statistics). Millions of gallons of fuel must be on site ready for generators. They must

See **LETTERS**, page 9

Correction

In the council story on page 7 of the March 5 issue, Darrell Carrington reports he had been providing legislative bill summaries to council since early January. His company is Carrington & Associates, LLC.

Story & Photograph Submissions

We welcome your stories and photographs about all things Greenbelt. While publication is not guaranteed, your submissions help us cover more of what goes on. Stories will be copyedited. Remember to include captions and identify people in photographs. See the information box on this page for publication deadlines and how to submit materials.

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Project Hail Mary

Science teacher Ryland Grace (Ryan Gosling) wakes up on a spaceship light-years from home with no recollection of who he is or how he got there. As his memory returns, he begins to uncover his mission: solve the riddle of the mysterious substance causing the sun to die out. He must call on his scientific knowledge and unorthodox ideas to save everything on Earth from extinction, but an unexpected friendship means he may not have to do it alone.

One Battle After Another

Bob (Leonardo DiCaprio) is a washed-up revolutionary who lives in a state of stoned paranoia, surviving off-grid with his spirited and self-reliant daughter, Willa. When his evil nemesis, Col. Steven J. Lockjaw (Sean Penn), resurfaces and Willa goes missing, the former radical scrambles to find her as both father and daughter battle the consequences of their pasts. The film won Oscars for Best Picture, Best Director (Paul Thomas Anderson) and Best Supporting Actor (Sean Penn) at the 2026 Academy Awards.

Mr. Nobody Against Putin

In this film, the 2026 Oscar winner for Best Documentary Feature, Pavel "Pasha" is a teacher and event organizer at a small primary school in a Russian town with a population of 10,000. In ordinary times, he is a beloved mentor, prankster and nonconformist, known for hanging up democracy posters and offering a safe haven in his office for students who feel out of place. However, after the 2022 full-scale invasion of Ukraine began, Pasha took on the role of an international whistleblower, exposing the devastating effects of Russia's aggressive militarization within its own schools. Haunted by his painful years as a student at the same school, Pasha remains a lighthearted and mischievous presence on campus. Yet his mission as a teacher is challenged when a new patriotic education policy is introduced during the early weeks of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Pasha is shocked to learn that his responsibilities now include facilitating daily state-sanctioned propaganda events. To cope with his guilt and feelings of powerlessness, he decides to document how the war is transforming his school. Under the guise of his actual role as the school's videographer, he records hundreds of hours of footage inside classrooms and on school grounds.

Dancing Joy

Shot around the world, the documentary takes the viewer on a journey of music, dance and culture. The music of Beethoven's final symphony is the score; traditional dance is the action. From the blue waters of Fiji, to the red plains of Botswana, to the green mountains of Hawaii, to the ancient temples of Nepal, the film connects to the people and beauty of each land, combining the world's most beloved symphony with stunning scenery, powerful movement and cultural beauty.

Moonbound

With Artemis II on the horizon, four astronauts transition from years of training to mission-ready reality. This episode explores the physical and mental challenges of preparing for a crewed flight around the Moon, and the teamwork required to test new systems at the edge of exploration.

greenbelt CINEMA

Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members always $7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!

After 5 PM: adults $10, kids $7, senior/student/military $9

Before 5 PM:
general admission $8, kids $6

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
MARCH 20th - 26th

Project Hail Mary (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2026) (157 mins)
Guest speakers from NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and UMD on Friday at 7pm - visit Greenbeltcinema.org/project-hail-mary for more details
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 3:30 PM, 7:00 PM
Sat. 4:40 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 3:45 PM (OC), 7:00 PM
Tues. 7:00 PM
Thurs. 4:20 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Mon. 1:30 PM, 5:00 PM
Wed. 7:00 PM
Thurs. 7:30 PM

One Battle After Another (R) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (162 mins)
Oscar winner - Best Picture
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 1:45 PM (OC)
Wed. 7:15 PM
Thurs. 3:20 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 3:45 PM, Sat. 7:30 PM
Sun. 4:00 PM, Tues. 5:00 PM

Mr. Nobody Against Putin (NR) (2025) (90 mins)
Oscar winner - Documentary Feature Film; In Russian with English subtitles
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 5:15 PM, Wed. 5:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:15 PM, Sat. 5:00 PM
Sun. 7:30 PM, Tue. 8:20 PM
Thurs. 5:20 PM

Dancing Joy (NR) (77 mins)
Free - registration for movie not required. Post-film discussion and Q&A with director Lan T. Lee, producer Kate Tsubata, and editor/film educator Mie Smith. Register for pre-screening dance workshops at the Greenbelt Community Center: bit.ly/dancingjoyregister
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 1:00 PM

Moonbound (NR) (2026) (36 mins)
Free screening sponsored by NASA
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 8:00 PM

Greenbelt News Review

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- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: $55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Community Events

At the Library

The Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. Real-time updates to the Library's operating schedule due to inclement weather and other emergencies are posted on pgcmls.info/alerts.

Storytimes

Friday, March 20, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/15668572.

Wednesday, March 25, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/15661317.

Thursday, March 26, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/15668556.

Come join in for stories, songs, fingerplays and more.

Legos: Bricks and Beyond

Monday, March 23, 4 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Build, create and explore with Legos. With plenty of pieces and endless possibilities, kids can let their imaginations take the lead in this freestyle building session. Register at pgcmls.info/event/15622910.

Apply for a Passport

The Greenbelt Library, along with five other Prince George's County Memorial Library System branches (Accokeek, Largo-Kettering, Laurel, New Carrollton and Oxon Hill), serves as a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment only; schedule a 30-minute appointment up to 30 days in advance by calling the Library at 301-345-5800 or visiting pgmls.info/passport-services.

Community Center Has Studio Space

The Artist in Residence Program at the Community Center is currently accepting applications for studio space starting in July. One vacancy is anticipated. Artists enjoy 24-hour facility access. By April 3, schedule a studio tour (required) by contacting Nicole DeWald, arts supervisor, at ndewald@greenbeltmd.gov. Learn more at greenbeltmd.gov/480/Artists-in-Residence.

Tax Preparation Assistance

AARP's income tax return preparation assistance resumed this year in Greenbelt, coordinated through GIVES. It takes place on Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Fire Department, 125 Crescent Road, by appointment only. Call 301-941-7123 to make an appointment.

Free Arts Programs On This Weekend

Youth and adults, artists and art fans, are all welcome to enjoy a variety of free activities this weekend at the Community Center, sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program.

On Friday evening, enjoy an artist's talk at 6 p.m. with Ann Margaret Morris, whose immersive drawings of the forest floor are on view in the Art Gallery. RSVP at sugeni.us/el6b.

At 7 p.m. on Friday evening, visual artists working in all media, at all experience levels, are invited to participate in an Art Share. Bring one to three pieces of your work to present and discuss. Sign up at sugeni.us/ekEO.

On Sunday morning, guests ages 15 and up can enjoy a belly dance class in the dance studio at 10:30 a.m. At 11:15 a.m. in the dance studio, guests are invited to participate in an all-ages dance party at which you can learn a swing dance number from the New Deal Nut. These activities are offered in conjunction with a free screening of the film Dancing Joy at 1 p.m. at the Greenbelt Cinema. For more information and to sign up, visit sugeni.us/emk7.

Greenbelt Recreation Arts Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. Learn more at greenbeltmd.gov/463/arts.

Nottage's Sweat Coming to GAC

The play Sweat, written by Lynn Nottage and directed by Bob Kleinberg (Doubt; Clybourne Park; Almost, Maine; and others) is coming to the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC). Nottage's gripping, timely play about the struggles of unionized factory workers in the new economy provides a cautionary tale to all of us in our rapidly changing political, social and economic world.

Performances will be held April 10 through 25, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. There will be a talk-back session with the cast following the April 19 matinee. Visit the GAC website at greenbeltartscenter.org for more information.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Women's History Concert By Greenbelt Orchestra

Greenbelt Community Orchestra will give a free concert on Sunday, March 22 at 3 p.m. in the Community Center gym. The concert will celebrate Women's History Month with an entire program of women composers, including an overture by Swedish composer Elfrida Andrée and a symphony by French composer Louise Farrenc, both written in the 1800s, as well as short pieces from the 20th century by Judith Bailey and Amy Beach, and the world premiere of a new work by local composer Veronica Maidoh.

For more information about the orchestra, visit greenbeltorchestra.org.

Yarn Donations Needed

Gifts from the Heart is a group of knitters and crocheters meeting Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon at the Community Center, Room 109. Every year they donate hundreds of hats, scarves, shawls, blankets, walker bags and baby items to schools, churches, nursing homes, Project Linus and other organizations. Donations of acrylic yarn are welcome and may be dropped off when the group meets.

Annual Uke Jam Returns

Join Greenbelt Recreation instructor and Artist-in-Residence Rachel Ann Cross at a ukulele jam on Sunday, April 12 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The event will be held on the Community Center front lawn. Players of all experience levels are welcome. Bring a ukulele and seating of choice. Also bring: music stand and page clips; water; sun protection; friends and family who like to sing; and maybe a picnic. Participants are encouraged to sign up at sugeni.us/enfB.

For more information about Greenbelt arts programs, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts. Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

Art Reception at New Deal Rescheduled to April 26

On display now through Saturday, May 2, the New Deal Café has an exhibit titled Viewpoint in a Circle featuring entirely new work from artist Eileen Murray-Kraft.

Over the past two years, Murray-Kraft has created a wide array of collages using a unique medium: six-inch circular watercolor card stock. Her artistic process evolved to fit the compact space of her GHI "cottage," demonstrating adaptability and creativity. Her creations draw inspiration from the natural world, everyday items and the dynamic relationships between colors and textures found in her environment. Murray-Kraft's passion for trying out different materials and techniques keeps her art vibrant and ever-changing.

The public is invited to a reception with the artist on Sunday, April 26 from 1 to 3 p.m. (previously scheduled for April 12). Come meet the artist and enjoy light refreshments.

March Is the Month Of Francophonie

All month long, "la boîte à mots," a little free library at 5 Lakeview Circle, is offering free illustrated children's books in French and Creole as well as a collection of French literary books to enjoy.

Astronomical Society Meets Thursday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will meet Thursday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 114 of the Community Center. The group will view the award-winning documentary Saving the Dark. This is especially relevant due to Greenbelt's plans to convert current streetlights to LEDs. The meeting is free and open to the public. All are welcome. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Comm. Center Parking Lot Closure Monday

A contractor will be performing a rigging and hoisting operation at the Community Center parking lot (side facing the Municipal Building) on Monday, March 23 from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

During this time, the parking lot on the east side will be closed to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic to ensure the safety of staff, residents and contractors while the crane operation is underway.

Visitors should plan accordingly during the closure period.

Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center.

March 25 - Bingo. (The club could use some prizes; give them to Suze.)

The Membership Committee is collecting 2026 dues. Pay with a check made out to Greenbelt Golden Age Club. If paying with cash, have the exact amount.

The Anniversary Luncheon will be on Wednesday, April 15 at the Holiday Inn, Baltimore Avenue, College Park. The Anniversary Luncheon committee is collecting for reservations. Pay with checks to Greenbelt Golden Age Club.

The Greenbelt Golden Age Club does not meet when the Prince George's County Public Schools office announces a delay, closure, or a Remote Learning Day because of inclement weather.

Greenbelt Chess Club Tournament on March 24

The Greenbelt Chess Club is holding a chess tournament on Tuesday, March 24 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Youth Center. People of all ages and skill levels are welcome to participate. For additional details, email greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com. To be added to the mailing list, visit tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form.

GATE GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION Community-Driven Storytelling

Featured Programming on Greenbelt Access Television

✦ March 2026 ✦

Verizon FiOS Channel 19 · Comcast Channel 77 · Streaming Online at GreenbeltAccessTV.org

Annual Member Meeting: Sunday March 29th from 3pm to 5pm at GATe's Studio (15 Crescent, Suite 204) we shall recap pivotal moments from last year, discuss future goals, eat and be merry!

✦ Featured Productions ✦

New, daily episodes of Democracy Now

Coverage of local events, performances and productions

All-new creations from Mister Geo's Homeschool Digital Animation Class

✦ ✦ ✦

All this and more on our cable channels, online streaming, and YouTube channel. As always, thank you for tuning in!

This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt! Try Our New Menu & Drinks!

BECOME A MEMBER!*

NEW DEAL CAFÉ Greenbelt, MD

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight; Sunday, 9am – 9pm

REMEMBER TO TIP OUR PERFORMERS - IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY'RE PAID!

* * * RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642 * * *

TH 3/19	FRI 3/20	SAT 3/21	SUN 3/22
Classic Jam w/ The Low Rent Quartet 7 - 9pm Blues leaning jam with all skill levels welcomed	The Sugarsmacks 8 - 11pm A band committed to playing music they love and makes people move & groove	POETRY OPEN MIC, 11a-1pm Built 4 Comfort 8 - 11pm This WAMMIE nominated band serves up dynamic tunes	ASL BRUNCH, 10:30a - 12p Seneca Creek Bluegrass 6 - 8pm Hard-driving, toe-tapping traditional bluegrass

MON 3/23	TUES 3/24	WED 3/25	TH 3/26	New Deal Cafe
LIVE BAND KARAOKE W/ Mike Scott & Friends 7 - 9:30pm	NDC Open Mic w/ Carla Monardes 6 - 9:30pm Sign ups begin at 6pm; Open Mic starts at 6:30p	Kim's Grand Rounds 7 - 9pm Talented songwriters perform in the round	The Bachelor & The Bad Actress 7 - 9pm An all-original acoustic duo: Joe Swelterpants & his lovely lady Hillary	IT'S TIME TO RENEW OR BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NDC! See link below*

*Join NDC! Go to NewDeal Cafe(dot) com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

Obituaries

Philip "Guz" Torbert

PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Philip Lyles Torbert

Philip Lyles "Guz" Torbert died on February 24, 2026, in Callaway, Md., at age 90. He was born on August 2, 1935, in, as he recounted, the back of a Model T Ford on the way to the hospital. As there was no hospital in the county, that would have been a considerable ride from the Torbert farmhouse, his first home, built on a hilltop now located inside the curve where Ridge and Crescent roads meet. A playground stands there now, surrounded by a ring of cedar trees planted well over 100 years ago to shelter the farmhouse. Read about the history of the Torbert family and their farm before it became Greenbelt in the article on page 12.

After the new city of Greenbelt rose over the farmstead, leaving only that ring of cedars, Guz was raised in Beltsville by his parents, Neville Simms Torbert and Roberta Freeland Torbert. He served honorably in the U.S. Naval Reserves from 1953 to 1961 and went on to a 34-year career as an installer and union representative with the Communication Workers of America, Local 2390.

A devoted husband and father, Guz was loved, respected and cherished by his children and by his wife of 58 years, Leona Barbara "B-Barb" Torbert, who died in 2021. The couple supported the Eastern Star Friendship Chapter 17 and, as Northwestern High School graduates, coordinated class reunions. They were active in the Corvair Club and loved to travel.

In addition to his wife, Barbara, Guz was also preceded in death by his sister, Frances Shipley and his son Anthony Jones. He is survived by his sister, Patsy "Pat" Kral; his children, Linda Quinn (Jimmy) of Secretary, Md.; Donald Jones (Lisa) of St. Inigoes, Md.; James "Shannon" Wright (Janine) of Preston, Md.; Frank Torbert of St. Inigoes, Md.; and Bruce Torbert of Wellsville, Pa.; his grandchildren, Amanda Chovan, Meghan Ross, Samantha Torbert, Philip Jones, Spencer Wright and Shelby Andrews; and his great-grandchildren, Kaiden Jones, June Wright and Casey Andrews.

The family asks that donations in his memory be made to the Greenbelt American Legion. All services will be private at this time. Condolences may be made to the family at mgfh.com.

Legacy.com obituary for Philip Lyles Torbert, "Guz" (age 90), published in the Washington Post, March 8, 2026.

In Memoriam

Grace (Llyn) Tamantini

by Frank Gervasi

Grace Llyn Waterhaut Tamantini died peacefully on January 28, 2026 at 2 p.m., during an after-lunch nap. She had just turned 96 and still had a good appetite and a lively spirit.

Born in 1930 in the small town of Kirkwood, Mo. (now part of St. Louis), she spent her Great Depression and War years there. Llyn left home at 18 to earn a degree in social work, with which she had a long career helping people.

An adventurous and independent woman, she soon after headed for Norway, where she married Ray Tamantini and lived for five years. With a huge poster of Norway on her wall, she encouraged everyone to visit that wonderful country. Next she chose to live in an opposite climate, Costa Rica, where she taught English in Heredia, at a university near San José. She loved that country also and returned to visit a number of times.

Llyn arrived in Greenbelt in 1977 and put down permanent roots at 36-C Ridge Road. There she lived until age 94, when Morningside nursing home in Laurel became her necessary residence.

While doing her social work at the University of Maryland Family Health Department, she also worked and volunteered at Greenbelt CARES and other area locations.

Her home at 36-C Ridge has two features unique to GHI. One is a renewable solar energy addition, built in 1979, and still preheating water to decrease the amount of energy running the electric water heater. President Carter had a program that paid 50 percent of the cost of the addition, a grant that Llyn received. The second unique feature she created was a bedroom in the frame home attic. By installing a full staircase above the existing stairs and installing two egress skylight windows, she utilized the attic legally and effectively.

Llyn had no children but was close to her nieces and nephews.

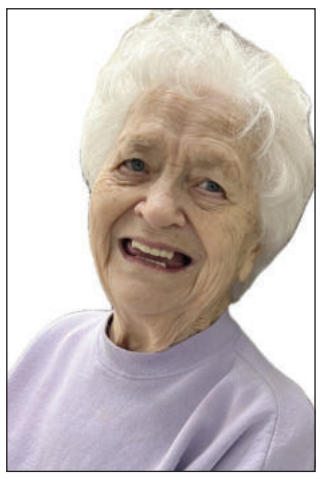


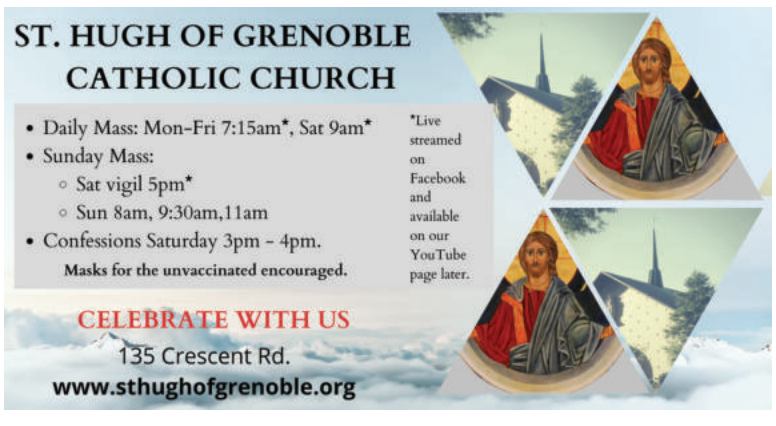
PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Grace Llyn Tamantini

She was predeceased by her older brother Robert Waterhaut and sister Rene Bell. She is survived by niece Judy Dunn and nephews James and Thomas Dunn, all living in the St. Louis area. Her good friends Charlene Backstrom, Uriel Amador and Frank Gervasi all visited with her just a day or two before she died. She was in good spirits. The nurse in charge felt she just waited to say goodbye and fell into that deep sleep that at 96 came at about the right time.

See **MEMORIAM**, page 8

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors
Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc
301-474-5410
Pastor Evelyn Romero
Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Living Generously in a World that Holds Back



Our Neighbors

Condolences to the family and many friends of David Lange, who died on March 6. He and his wife Sandra have made innumerable contributions to life in Greenbelt. His many accomplishments will be remembered and he will be greatly missed.

Our sympathies to the family and friends of Tom Cherrix whose legacy of longtime membership and direction of the Greenbelt Concert Band will be celebrated on March 21.

Our condolences to the family and friends of Philip "Guz" Torbert who died on February 26. He was born before the construction of Greenbelt and remained closely connected to it. His family's story and their farm have been important in the history of Greenbelt.

Sympathies to the family and friends of Grace Llyn Tamantini who set her life's work as helping others. She will be missed by her friends and neighbors.

Congratulations to the students from the Robotics Club at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, known as Area 53 Robotics, who earned top recognition at the Maryland State Robotics Championship on March 15.

Congratulations to ERHS teacher Bob Huh and his students in Korean language and culture who celebrate a decade of the program this month.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present. You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT
Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
cathcomgreenbelt.org
ALL ARE WELCOME!
A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community
OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owner@groups.io

"The persistent neglect by the governing bodies and the masses of the American people of the ravages of racism jeopardizes both the internal order and the national security of the country." – U.S. Bahá'í National Assembly
Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

St. John's Episcopal Church
11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org
Welcomes you each Sunday for
Worship & Sunday School
at 10:00 AM

Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.
Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
March 22, 2026, at 3 p.m.
Within Us, Among Us, Beyond Us: Engaging Prayer
Rev. Ellen Swinford with Worship Associate Erin Wiley
Continuing in reflection on the March theme of Help, Chaplain Ellen Swinford, who has been accompanying people spiritually in hospital settings and mentoring seminarians in the development of their pastoral identities and skills for over 30 years, offers reflections on the experience of prayer. What kinds of help can we, do we, find in the experiential field that goes by the name of prayer?
Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

Greenbelt Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service

The Greenbelt Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service will be held at Buddy Attick Park on Sunday, April 5 at 7 a.m. The Easter homily will be preached by the Rev. Aubra Love, pastor of Greenbelt Community Church at 1 Hillside Road, Greenbelt. Those attending will be led in song by Melissa Sites. The park is located at 555 Crescent Road and is centered around Greenbelt Lake.

This Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service is offered by the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket to sit on. All are welcome.

Art Exhibition At Community Center

An exhibition at the Community Center Art Gallery features detailed and immersive large charcoal drawings of the forest floor by Ann Margaret Morris. Her meticulous compositions convey the drama of crashing trees and boldly advancing vines and roots. The gallery is open daily: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. RSVP for a free Artist's Talk on Friday, March 20 at 6 p.m. The show is on view through March 22. City of Greenbelt Arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. For more program information, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

See Dancing Joy Film, Join Dance Workshops

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program and Greenbelt Cinema will offer a suite of free programs on Sunday, March 22 related to the film Dancing Joy: two dance workshops at the Community Center dance studio, a belly dance workshop (age 15 and up), from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.; and an all-ages dance party in which participants can learn a swing dance number from the New Deal Nut, from 11:15 to 12:15 p.m. At 1 p.m., enjoy a free screening of the film at the Greenbelt Cinema followed by a panel discussion with the director, producer and editor of the film. Sign up for any or all of these activities online, at sugeni.us/emk7.

GAC Presents Miller's A View from the Bridge

Arthur Miller's classic play, A View from the Bridge, will be on stage at the Greenbelt Arts Center through March 21. Set in 1955 Brooklyn, the play explores themes both timeless and current.

This tale of personal struggle and societal pressures is being directed by Stephen Cox, who has directed classics such as The Importance of Being Earnest, Ghosts, Les Liaisons Dangereuses and Private Lives, among others.

Performances will be held Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.

PORCH Food Pickup Dates for Rest of March

Greenbelt PORCH will collect food as scheduled below. Food placed on porches by the time listed will be picked up after that time.

Saturday, March 21 – by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill.

Sunday, March 22 – by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive.

Sunday, March 22 – by 6 p.m. for 11S Ridge Road, 14 and 16 Courts Ridge Road and 8 and 10 Courts Southway.

Saturday, March 28 – by 10 a.m. for Mathew Street to Megan Court including Brett Place.

Sunday, March 29 – by 5 p.m. for 18 Court Ridge

City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

MEETINGS FOR MARCH 23 - 27

Tuesday, March 24 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION** *On the agenda: Debrief of Educator Awards, Discussion/Planning Student Awards*

Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY** *On the agenda: TBD*

Tuesday, March 24 at 7 pm, **DRAFT CEMETERY MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY MEETING**

Wednesday, March 25 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES UPDATE**

Thursday, March 26 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD** *On the agenda: Green Man Festival - Planning for Table and Outreach, Videos about Forest Preserve Tracts*

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 23 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge
- Petitions and Requests
- Consent Agenda
- Meetings
- Committee Reports
- Acceptance of Recommendation for Removal of Members of Arts Advisory Board
- Resignation from Advisory Board/Committee
- Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS
- Presentations
  * Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month
  * Proposed FY 2027 City Budget
- Minutes
  * Statement of Record - Closed Session, March 6, 2026
  * Statement of Record - Closed Session, March 9, 2026
  * Statement of Record - Closed Session, March 11, 2026
- Administrative Reports

LEGISLATION
- Resolution to Repeal and Reenact with Amendment Resolution Number 2109 to Adopt Standing Rules for the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland - 1st Reading
- Resolution Recognizing March 31st as Transgender Day of Visibility
- 1st Reading and Suspension of the Rules - 2nd Reading and Adoption

OTHER BUSINESS
- Legislative Review: State and County Bills
- Council Discussion on Revising the Planning Framework
- Council Reports
- Council Activities

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV or call (301) 474-8000.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

DRAFT CEMETERY PRESERVATION MASTER PLAN

The City of Greenbelt has contracted with JMT to prepare a Preservation Master Plan for the preservation, maintenance and use of three historic cemeteries. View the draft of the Cemetery Preservation Master Plan using the QR code or by clicking here. The project is being funded by a grant received from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority/Maryland Historic Trust. You can learn more and stay updated by visiting the City of Greenbelt website.

FREE VISION & HEARING SCREENINGS

March 30 from 10am-12 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East

GAIL presents **Once Upon A Greenbelt!** This event is for Greenbelt Residents only.

The GAIL program, in partnership with the Lions Club, is providing free vision and hearing screenings for parents and children in elementary and middle school. This initiative is designed to encourage children to put down the tech and dive into a fun book with family. The event helps ensure that children and parents can see clearly, read confidently, and build a strong foundation for learning.

50+ WORKFORCE TECH SKILLS!

Helping Seniors Navigate Today's Digital World with Confidence

Community Center, Ground Floor East

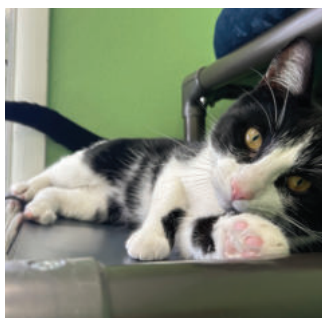
Join our 50+ Workforce Tech Skills workshops to boost your digital confidence and learn essential online tools for modern job searching. Each session focuses on a key skill to help you find, apply for, and manage job opportunities in today's digital age.

March 26 – Using Job Search Engines: Discover how to research and evaluate employment opportunities using popular job sites like Indeed.

Register now at https://forms.gle/GUBUZoBpksAeqmkH7.

FEATURED PETS

Prince



Ready for Adoption?

Call (301) 474-6124

1-year-old Prince has been at the shelter for a few months, and we can't fathom why he's been overlooked by adopters! This Prince Charming has really got it all – a handsome tuxedo coat, captivating eyes, and a charming personality. Prince has been housed in the kitten room and has gotten along so great with all of them, and we think he'd do really great with another playful cat like himself. In addition to his fun personality, he also loves to cuddle and be held.

If you're interested in adopting Prince Charming, please reach out to us at animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov or call us at (301) 474-6124.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In the City of Greenbelt, we remain committed to embracing and celebrating the diversity of all. As our nation undergoes change, feelings of pride, uncertainty, and even fear may arise. Yet, we stand firm in the pledge that has defined Greenbelt since its inception and will not falter.

Learn more at https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/know-your-rights-immigration-resources.

* VOLUNTEER * VACANCIES * APPLY FOR A COMMITTEE OR BOARD TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Arts Advisory Board, Community Relations Advisory Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.

Artist Talk with Ann Margaret Morris 3/20; 6-7pm. RSVP at sugeni.us/el6b. Meet the artist currently featured in the Greenbelt Community Center Art Gallery. FREE.

Dancing Joy
3/22. Free morning dance workshops at the Greenbelt Community Center, followed by a free 1pm screening and panel discussion of the film Dancing Joy at the Greenbelt Cinema: dancers from 21 cultures interpret the Ode to Joy. Please sign up at https://sugeni.us/emk7. (Walk-ins also welcome as capacity allows.)

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **Spring session classes begin** 3/23. Registration open for all. See brochure and more information at www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide.
- **April Artful Afternoons** 4/12; 1-2pm & 2-3pm (Greenbelt Community Center) 4/19; 1:30-2:30pm (Springhill Lake Recreation Center) Sign up here: sugeni.us/entx
- **Art Studio Open House & Sale** - save the date! 5/3; 1-4pm (Greenbelt Community Center)

LIBRARY continued from page 1

and the agreement with GESTA to maintain the library on the campus and give the union written notification of any proposed changes or decisions impacting the library. The Trump administration revoked recognition of the union on August 28 (see the September 3, 2025 issue) and the rapid closure of the library comes during what may be a temporary lapse in union recognition, which is its own legal battle.

NASA's Largest Research Library

Prior to the rapid recent changes under the current administration, NASA's commitment to maintain a library at Goddard created "concrete reliance" upon it for workers there, says Weil. "The workforce at NASA have a legitimate reason to rely on this promise to keep the library open indefinitely," Weil told the News Review.

"Goddard was the largest research library in the entire agency. It had an estimated 100,000 volumes; and one of the reasons why it has become such an important focal point is because over the last decade NASA has been consolidating libraries at other facilities across the country," said Weil. As the agency closed other libraries, such as the joint Army-NASA library in Huntsville, Ala., in 2019 and the library at NASA's headquarters in 2024, important materials and records were sent to Goddard to preserve institutional knowledge and important resources. "This lifeboat, this sanctuary for all of those materials ... is now suddenly closed. So, what happened to that promise [to preserve knowledge at Goddard]?" asks Weil. Weil says that due to the agency-wide significance of Goddard's library, it holds importance not only for the workers who have come to seriously rely on it in their work but for the public interest. "This is the nation's space agency; a civilian space agency, and one of the things it was tasked with when it was founded was to preserve and disseminate the institutional knowledge that it amassed and to make that readily available," says Weil. "Is closing the library in keeping with those statutory obligations?" he asks.

Record Retention

Weil says the federal record retention schedule changed in September 2025 and "materially departs" from how it had been for decades. Any time a federal agency wants to dispose of a record classified as a federal record under the Federal Records Act of 1950, it has to go through a scheduling process that involves sorting and approval by the National Archives, explained Weil. "Some of the things we're really concerned about are the elimination of certain safeguards that actually make it easier for NASA, on its own, to schedule and dispose of records without previous types of oversight, that includes getting the approval of the archivist, when it comes to records and materials that could have permanent status under the Federal Records Act. And that's very alarming because we have to ask ourselves what was the reason behind materially altering the record retention schedule in this way and why does this happen in early September and then weeks later does all of this very quick and opaque action begin to occur at the Goddard Space Flight Center." We ought to ask if it is truly necessary to dismantle the library, said Weil and if it is then surely it can be done in a way that properly sorts, categorizes and protects materials with impermanent or permanent status, he argues. "But why this speed and why this opaqueness? Why are we not able to get answers to simple questions?"

As we reported in the February 18 issue, trucks began removing materials from Goddard's library on a Saturday afternoon last month. "It is disappointing and it is disturbing," said Weil. "If everything NASA is saying can be taken at face value and trusted, then why the secrecy and why the abruptness? Why create a 60-day review process and conduct it in a manner that allows little or no transparency?"

What Remains at the Library

On February 27 there was a hearing for a temporary promise made to the court to halt further dismantling of the library. "Government has made assurances that everything stays where it is," said Weil of a restraining order that should prevent the removal of materials from the library until April 30. However, the government argued that federal records should continue to be shipped to NASA's Glenn Research Center in Ohio and the court allowed for those materials to continue to be sent.

"We're not looking at this in a vacuum," explained Weil, who pointed to what happened at Goddard's annex at Columbia University, the Goddard Institute for Space Studies, which "virtually closed down overnight," said Weil, when the lease was terminated and the facility shuttered in May 2025. The personal possessions of workers were literally put on the curb in some cases, said Weil. The News Review has reported on concerns about personal and professional property at Goddard, where buildings have been closed with little notice to their occupants of where or when they'll be moving (see the November 6, 2025 issue). Thus the plaintiffs sought to cease the movement of materials and prevent irreparable damage being done before the case can be heard. "The administration, NASA leadership, management at Goddard can say one thing but over the last year, repeatedly, the actions that have been committed give the plaintiffs every reason to suspect that NASA is not conducting itself ... in good faith. How can you say on one hand that the employees of Goddard have nothing to worry about when back in September they are closing down laboratories and in some cases throwing away personal effects, leaving personal items on the curb. What reason do these individuals who have dedicated their professional lives to this agency, as public servants, what reason do they have to believe that now this library closure will be conducted in any manner that's different from the way that they've been conducting themselves to date?" asked Weil.

Asked what outcome the plaintiffs are looking for in the case, Weil said "the plaintiffs want the dismantling to stop and they believe they have a case." "There's a lot of precedent to suggest that what the administration is doing is improper," he told the News Review.

Lack of Rationale

"It all goes back to this question of 'Why?'" said Weil. "What's missing is a legitimate explanation." They haven't been given answers to their questions but redirected to the Master Plan, which doesn't speak to the library's closure, said Weil. There's "no explanation grounded in anything concrete that justified it," he told the News Review. Rather, its closure is another step in the effort to continue dismantling these research facilities, Weil said.

"Agencies have a lot of discretion to do a great many things, especially when it comes to internal management ... even when it comes to making massive policy changes," noted Weil. "Really the only thing they have to do is point to a reason and have that reason be grounded in something and the courts have said time and again, 'we'll leave it alone, even if they disagree with it, we'll leave it alone,' but they still have to show a reason. And they haven't done that here. And that's why I believe the plaintiffs have a case," he told the News Review.

The News Review reached out to NASA Goddard to ask about the rationale behind the library's closure and the speed at which it was being conducted. The Office of Communications directed us to NASA Headquarters, which was initially responsive, requesting our deadline and saying they'd be in touch. However, the statement they later provided was, "For matters in litigation, please contact the U.S. Department of Justice."

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301-681-6636
No special equipment needed

Celebrating 100 Years Since Goddard's Breakthrough in Modern Rocketry

by Michele Ostovar and Monika Luabeya

From the voyages of spacecraft to the moon and beyond, to the launches of satellites that help us navigate, communicate and understand our planet and the universe, the use of liquid-fueled rockets has been key to humanity's use and exploration of space. Monday marked 100 years since the first successful test of this technology.

On March 16, 1926, physicist and inventor Dr. Robert H. Goddard achieved a small but significant success when he launched a liquid-fueled rocket for the first time. His rocket, fueled by liquid oxygen and gasoline, was tested at his Aunt Effie's farm in Auburn, Mass.

While unimpressive by most measures – the rocket flew for just 2.5 seconds, reaching 41 feet (12.5 meters) in altitude and landing in a cabbage patch 184 feet (56 meters) away – it was a breakthrough that heralded the exploration of space.

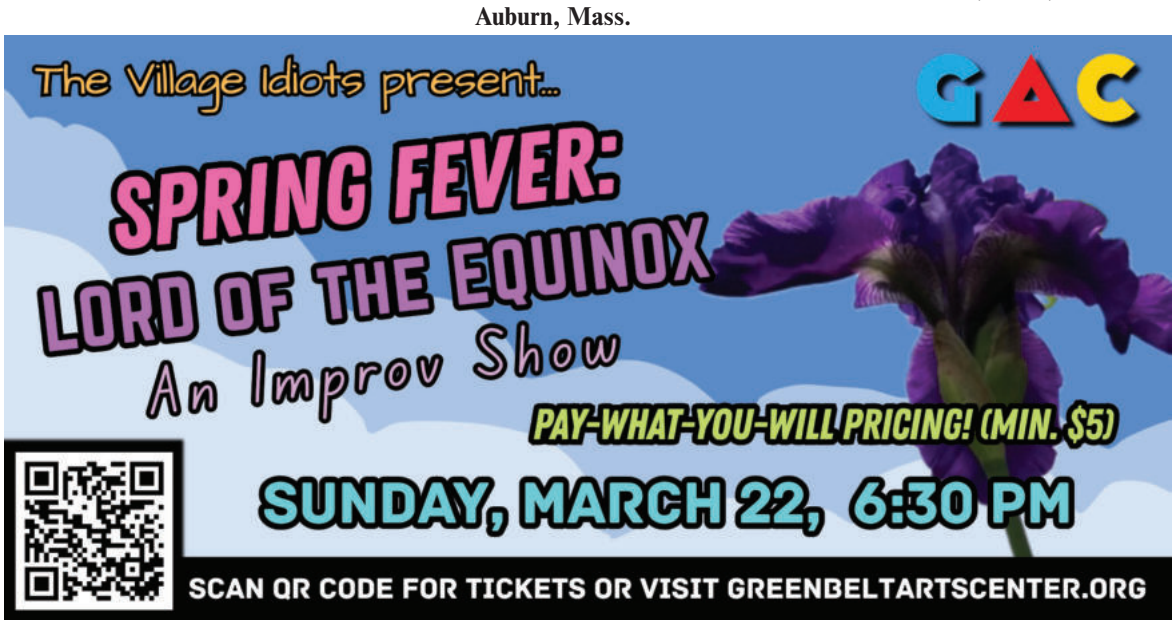
Over his lifetime, Goddard improved on his design and went on to create other technologies for space travel, including systems to steer rockets, pumps for rocket fuels and engines that could pivot for better control. His pioneering work laid an important foundation for our achievements in space today.

Michele Ostovar is NASA History communications lead and Monika Luabeya is a science writer at NASA Goddard.

The Goddard Visitor Center holds model rocket launches on the first Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. All ages are welcome.

PHOTO BY ESTHER GODDARD, CLARK UNIVERSITY ARCHIVE

Robert H. Goddard and a liquid oxygen–gasoline rocket in the frame from which it was fired on March 16, 1926, at Auburn, Mass.



School News

ERHS Celebrates Korean Language

This year marks a decade of Korean language education at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) and the school is celebrating in style. The 10th Annual ERKR Showcase will take place on Thursday, March 26, featuring an evening full of Korean culture, music and performance.

ERHS made history in 2016 as the first public school in the state to offer Korean as an elective. Since then, students have been learning the language and exploring Korea's rich cultural heritage, from traditional arts to modern pop culture. The showcase will include a traditional Korean play, a modern play, Nanta drumming, a fan dance and a Taekwondo demonstration – all performed by current students. K-pop fans won't want to miss the dance and singing competitions by the school's K-pop dance team, Limitless. Bob Huh, ERHS Korean teacher and sponsor of the Korean Club and the Korean Honor Society, has guided the program since its inception. "K-pop shows like Demon Hunters have sparked a wave of interest among younger students. Our program helps them continue exploring Korean language and culture as they grow," said Huh. ERHS currently offers Korean 1 through 3, with plans to expand to Level 4. Admission to the showcase is free, and the event runs from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Gerald L. Boarman Auditorium.

PHOTO COURTESY BOB HUH

Drummers participate in a previous Korean showcase at ERHS.

A flyer advertising the upcoming Korean Showcase at ERHS

SPRINGHILL LAKE continued from page 1

organized into color-coded grade-level "neighborhoods" to help students and visitors navigate the building more easily. Some classrooms will also include movable walls.

"It allows the teachers to collaborate or reach ... both of the classes and allows the school to rent the spaces out for community meetings," said Chin.

According to Martin Boddu from MCN Build, on-site demolition will begin in July. Foundation work and structural framing are expected to start in early 2027, followed by installation of exterior walls and building systems later that year. Interior construction and finishing work will continue into early 2028, with inspections scheduled for June 2028. If construction proceeds as planned, the new school will be turned over to PGCPS on July 15, 2028.

Springhill Lake students will be relocated to the Dora Kennedy French Immersion (DKFI) School building during the two school years of construction. DKFI students have been housed in that building since 2014, when they were told it would be their permanent home. However, in January 2024, PGCPS announced plans to move DKFI and to demolish the large white building that faces Greenbelt and Edmonston Roads (see the February 1, 2024 and March 14, 2024 issues). The building was originally the 1938 Greenbelt High School. In May 2024, amid discussion of its future, the building was designated a Prince George's County Historic Site (see the May 30, 2024 issue), making its demolition unlikely, although it will be decommissioned as a school in 2028, when SHLES moves back to its own site.

Laura Charleston is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.

PHOTO BY PAT SCULLY

A snowman stands sentinel behind the bus stop on Southway near the Baltimore-Washington Parkway ramp.

GREENBELT RECREATION fun • fitness • friendship
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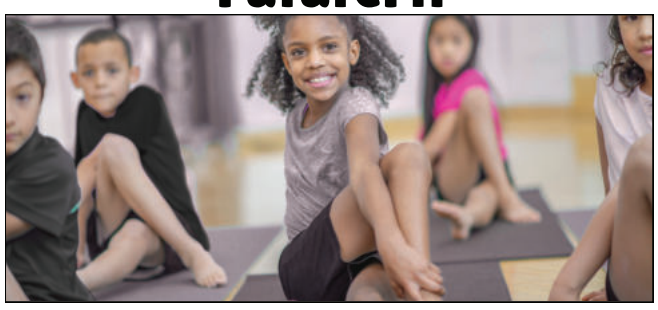
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MEMORIAM continued from page 4

In Memoriam

Tom Cherrix

by Li'l Dan Celdran

The Greenbelt Concert Band will present a free concert on Saturday, March 21 at 3 p.m. in the Community Center gym, celebrating the legacy of former director and longtime member Tom Cherrix, who died on December 26, 2025 in Lanham.

Tom was born on December 16, 1935 in Wachapreague, Va. He met his wife Caroline while studying physics at the University of Maryland, where they both played in the university band. A gifted clarinetist, Tom performed widely throughout the region, playing in dinner clubs, theater productions, dance bands and weddings.

After college, Tom enjoyed a long and distinguished scientific and engineering career with NASA, where he was instrumental in creating the first color radar representations of weather satellite imagery and contributed to several space missions. He later transitioned to mission-critical work at the CIA, traveling extensively worldwide, and retired from federal service with almost 40 years of dedication.

Tom and Caroline joined the Greenbelt Concert Band in February 1965 after answering an advertisement in the Washington Post seeking musicians. What had initially begun as a youth band was evolving into an ensemble for adult musicians, and Tom and Caroline (who played saxophone) helped the group grow by inviting other musicians to join, including best friends Joan and Ronnie Culpepper, who would later serve as the band's librarian and treasurer.

Tom and Caroline often carpooled with fellow musicians from their home in Hillcrest Heights as the group expanded. They were so dedicated to the band that their baby daughter sometimes accompanied Caroline to rehearsals.

At the time, the band was conducted by John Delhomme, another clarinetist who became Tom's mentor. "Tom learned a lot from him," recalls Caroline. The band rehearsed year-round and performed concerts in Greenbelt for July 4th and August community celebrations. Caroline also remembers the band performing at Roosevelt Center near the Mother and Child statue.

In addition to clarinet, Tom played bassoon, all saxophones, keyboard, piano, upright string bass and flute. On one memorable occasion, Tom, Caroline and their two teenage daughters performed together as a quartet, each playing clarinet and saxophone on two pieces, after being selected by John Delhomme for a performance at the Little Sisters of the Poor retirement home.

PHOTO COURTESY FRANCIS J COLLINS FUNERAL HOME

Tom Cherrix

Having never used a baton, Tom learned to conduct by carefully observing others. According to Caroline, he loved conducting and was a naturally gifted musician. Tom was also very handy and could repair instruments at home. He prepared concert programs using music from the band's ever-growing library and enjoyed a wide variety of repertoire, including show tunes, classical band music and the marches of John Philip Sousa, which he often programmed at the beginning or end of concerts.

During Tom's tenure as conductor, he founded the Greenbelt Wind Ensemble, providing an opportunity for retired musicians or those with flexible schedules to perform at local retirement and nursing homes.

In addition to playing clarinet with the Greenbelt Concert Band and Wind Ensemble, Tom also played bassoon in the University of Maryland band and first clarinet in the Olney Concert Band.

Tom's contributions to the Greenbelt Concert Band were recognized by the City of Greenbelt, which presented him with two plaques honoring his service as director from 1994 to 2016. When Tom was ready to "pass the baton," he and Caroline (who served as personnel manager) continued performing as members of both the Concert Band and the Wind Ensemble until his death.

Tom is survived by his wife of 66 years, Caroline; his daughters, Leigh Anne (Rob) and Margaret (Mo); six grandchildren, Lauren (Daniel), Joseph (Shelby), Haley (TC), Caroline, Grace, and Quinn; and four great-grandchildren, Emma, Asher, Barrett, and Juliet. He is also survived by cherished nieces, nephews, and dear friends. He was predeceased by his parents, Lester R. and Sarah Cherrix, and his siblings, Lester B. (Dorothy), Baynard (Catherine), and Vivian (Roy).

Tom's legacy lives on through the music, musicians and community he helped nurture for more than five decades.

Li'l Dan Celdran is general manager (percussion) of the Greenbelt Concert Band. Special thanks to Caroline for sharing her memories of Tom for this article.

PHOTO BY CAROLINE CHERRIX

Greenbelt Brass Ensemble directed by Tom Cherrix during his tenure as music director

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LANGE continued from page 1

David was selected as Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen that year, Harry Hughes, the governor of Maryland, declined to sign the customary proclamation honoring him. David viewed the incident as a badge of courage.

School or Community Center?

In 1985 David chaired Citizens for Education and Community, which divided residents into two camps, one favoring the retention of the existing historic elementary school building otherwise proposed to be operated by the city as a community center; the other favoring building a new elementary school in the footprint of the closed North End School on Ridge Road.

David felt passionately that a community center in the heart of the city had many advantages. There would be easy access to city services such as daycare, artist studios, classes for seniors and teens and musical and dance performances. One resident opposing the $3 million bond for the community center wrote a letter to the editor proclaiming, "I have never heard how bricks taught a child to read nor how mortar has ever improved a child's spelling. Education is most importantly about teachers, curriculum and students. None of those items will be improved by erecting a new school and much history and tradition will be lost." (See the June 22, 1989 issue.)

After a referendum on a bond issue that included a "Yes" or "No" vote, residents approved by a slim margin the building of a new Greenbelt Elementary school on Ridge Road and the historic "old" school became a popular community center serving people of all ages and interests. David was also an early leader in the advocacy of racial equity in Greenbelt.

Problem solver

David was a problem solver. One day, a neighbor cut down a cherry tree. David was quickly on the phone trying to find a wood turning group that would take the tree. Another time, he found a trove of old letters from a former colleague who had died. He felt the friend's widow might like to have the letters because they contained references to her husband's life in Chicago which his family knew very little about. Sure enough, David found his friend's daughter living in another state. She was delighted to learn more about her father.

At NSA David was keenly aware of the low-level jobs given to women, especially minority women. An all-white shop of mathematicians, linguists and cryptanalysts was supported by a small group of all-Black keypunchers. David arranged for one of the women to manage the computer runs rather than keypunch and thereby created a new career field for the women.

Education Supporter

After retiring from NSA in 1995, David turned to tutoring math at Greenbelt Elementary School. This evolved into a 14-year volunteer program bringing in 30 to 40 weekly tutors, artists and even office staff to help out at the school. He also started and managed two series of articles for the News Review. One was to ask school principals to select two teachers to highlight during American Education Week and the second series ran during National Women's History Month.

Schools were important to David. Deep into his retirement he chaired the city's Middle School Task Force that examined whether the city should acquire the original former Greenbelt High School after the middle school moved to its new building. Instead, the Board of Education decided to renovate the school and move the Dora Kennedy French Immersion program there.

Family

David and his wife Sandra enjoyed traveling, visiting the pyramids in Egypt, the Great Wall of

See **LANGE**, page 9

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred March 9-15, 2026. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported one sexual assault, five domestic incidents, one resulting in arrest, and two mental health diversions, one associated with one of the domestic disturbances.

A man, reported missing, called to report that he was not missing.

Assault

On March 10 at 5:28 p.m. near 6162 Springhill Terrace, a girl was jumped on her way home from Greenbelt Middle School. School staff were made aware of those possibly involved.

Vandalism

On March 14 at 8:13 p.m. near 6218 Breezewood Drive, as a man entered his building, he noticed two men loitering in the hallway. He went into his apartment, then heard a loud thud at his door and saw the men running away in an unknown direction.

Arrest for Telephone Misuse

On March 13 at 5:22 p.m. near 5829 Cherrywood Terrace, officers responded to a call about robbery with weapons, and found that the caller was not being robbed, but was suspicious of two men in her hallway. The officer is seeking charges for telephone misuse.

Disorderly

On March 11 at 12:52 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man became agitated and argued with security after they told him to leave; he was then banned from returning.

DUI Arrests

On March 13 at 8:49 p.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, an officer found a van police were looking for, and ordered the driver out of the car; his identity and the warrant were confirmed. Officers noticed signs of impairment and gave sobriety tests, then arrested him for the warrant and for suspicion of DUI.

On March 15 at 7:38 p.m. near 8010 Greenbelt Station Parkway, a vehicle was following a man and intentionally collided with his car; officers witnessed the repeated ramming and arrested the driver for DUI and several other non-traffic-related offenses.

Fraud

On March 10 near 7701 Greenbelt Road, a business check was fraudulently cashed.

On March 11 near 7565 Greenbelt Road, a bank account had fraudulent activity.

On March 12 near 6116 Breezewood Drive, identity theft occurred.

Theft

On March 9 at 1:59 p.m. near 8305 Canning Terrace, a package delivered to a residence was stolen; at 6:13 p.m. near 8020 Greenbelt Station Parkway, someone found a power cable in their exterior outlet that led to their neighbor's apartment.

On March 12 at 7:36 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, someone took a bike that was parked near Planet Fitness. The bike owner called the police, and security provided footage. Officers found the suspect at the Shell Food Mart and recovered the bike.

On March 13 at 3:59 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was banned from a store after shoplifting.

Trespassing Arrests

On March 9 at 5:52 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a previously banned female was refusing to leave; she was arrested and released on a criminal citation.

On March 9 at 9:51 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a known trespasser was identified on Beltway Plaza property and arrested on four open warrants for trespassing.

Vandalism

On March 10 at 7:17 a.m. near 9110 Edmonston Road, a man's cousin broke the sliding glass door and entered his home; the cousin had been living at the residence for some time.

On March 11 near 153 Westway, a man found his dash camera on the ground next to his vehicle, broken; near 121 Centerway, the AC unit behind the store was smashed, along with the fence around it, possibly by a vehicle.

On March 12 at 6:51 p.m. near 6602 Lake Park Drive, a woman's granddaughter caused a disturbance and tore a hole in the balcony screen, after she was locked out because she was being violent.

Vehicle Crimes

Stolen Vehicles

On March 12 at 2:46 p.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, a man parked his Honda Accord (Va. WWJ9775) at the Shell Food Mart and left it running with a woman passenger inside the vehicle; she then stole the vehicle and fled. She was not well known to the victim.

On March 14 near 6440 Cherrywood Lane, two vehicles were stolen: a 2019 Honda Odyssey (Md. 4DM7573) and a 2019 Honda Accord (Md. 1FB3035).

Theft from Auto

On March 14 near 122 Westway, all four wheels were taken from a 2025 Toyota Corolla; near 6400 Ivy Lane, the rear tag (Md. 4GD3197) was missing from a National Guard vehicle.

Vandalism to Auto

On March 9 near 17 Ridge Road, a vehicle window was damaged.

On March 14 near 30 Crescent Road, several vehicles were vandalized, with food being thrown on them, side mirrors broken, and tires slashed.

On March 14 at 5:19 p.m. near 6600 Capitol Drive, while a man was charging his vehicle another man threw a rock at his window and fled in a silver vehicle.

Letters cont'd from p.2

be run once a month for an hour (maintenance) and when there is an electricity shortage. Keep in mind that the jobs for construction are temporary and it is not guaranteed that they would all be workers from Prince George's County. Also, Prince George's County and Maryland State tax break laws are weak, adding more problems to our budget.

Kathy Bartolomeo

LANGE continued from page 8

China and the mysteries of the Incas at Machu Picchu. Africa was a destination to visit her son and his step-son Alex in Tanzania. David greatly enjoyed genealogy and published 15 booklets on family history.

In his first marriage to Roberta Susan McFadden, David had three children: Robert Frederick Lange (now deceased), Jonathan Edward Lange (Katherine) and Alice Chappell. His second marriage to Deanne Pelton ended in divorce. He married Sandra Ageloff in 1992.

David is also survived by seven grandchildren, Jessica King, Arielle Crooks (James), Rebecca Hogan (Ryan), Christian and Jonathan Lange, Rhiannon Lange and step-grandson Dmitri Barnes; and 9 great-grandchildren, Destiny, Connor, Olivia and Declan Crooks, Crixus and Varro King and Kylie, Lydia and Matilda Hogan.

A memorial service is planned for May 30. More information will be provided closer to the date. Contributions in David's memory may be made to Help By Phone, P.O. Box 324, Riverdale, MD 20737 and the Greenbelt Community Foundation, P.O. Box 234, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

PHOTO BY MARK SHERMAN

A frosting of snow covers a Mini Cooper on Hillside Road on March 12, after 80 degree weather the day before.

Classified Advertising

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FOR SALE – Yamaha soundbar ATS-1080 w/remote; black bamboo 4-panel room divider 68.5" high; NAD 4130 AM/FM tuner; pair of Bose speakers w/stand; have photos; Clarke, 301-575-7058, please leave voice message.

FOR SALE – LG 75-in. OLED EVO AI TV, C4 Series w/remote, was store display (not in box), is wrapped; LG 65-in. QNED AI TV in box; and 2-seater pale green-beige couch, have photos if needed. Call 301-575-7058 and leave voice.

NOTICE

FREE – movie showing! The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (2005, PG), Saturday 3/28/2026, 1 p.m. Greenbelt Cinema, 129 Centerway.

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BOXED: $11.50/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches ($17.25). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each $10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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Sports

ERHS Raiders Ride New Seasonal Changes to Regional Championships

by Patrick Gleason

As winter and spring duel for March supremacy, both Eleanor Roosevelt basketball teams have regional championship plaques to celebrate. In time their accomplishments will sweeten the bitter blow of state quarterfinal defeats at the hands of two Montgomery County foes.

Girls Team

The girls left no doubt in their two playoff victories, dominating both games by over 40 points, including their trophy-clinching win over the Laurel Spartans. Senior Christina Kuriadom punctuated the Raider offense in the first half, nailing several three-pointers, while their pressure defense suffocated the Spartans, leading to countless turnovers and easy Roosevelt layups. Coach Delton Fuller celebrated the regional title with the team, which pitted them against the undefeated overall number one seed, the Walt Whitman Vikings. The Raiders battled valiantly in a 46-38 defeat on Saturday, March 7, despite having to travel to the Vikings' Bethesda gym. After sneaking by the Raiders, the Vikings then defeated the C.H. Flowers' Jaguars in a state semifinal matchup, that leaves the Raiders working toward their first state title since 2018.

Boys Team

Meanwhile, the boys navigated their newly constructed region with a blowout victory over the Northwestern Wildcats before defeating the Paint Branch Panthers 63-52 and the Montgomery Blair Blazers 56-51 enroute to their first regional title since their 2022 state championship season and first trophy under third-year head coach Chaun Miller. While the Raiders led throughout the matchups with both feline foes, they started sluggish against the Blazers, trailing for the first half's duration as they struggled to score. Senior Donte Whitaker guided the victory over Paint Branch with 30 points.

The comeback at Blair proved a team effort. By the start of the final quarter, the Raiders had rescued the lead and looked likely to coast to victory. But the final minute produced its own March madness. Six straight missed Raider free throws and a Blair four-point play led to a deficit of only one – and Blazer possession after another Roosevelt miss from the charity stripe. Fortunately, sophomore Michael Johnson intercepted a long Blair pass and sunk the first Raider free throws in what felt like an eternity to tame the mayhem and preserve victory.

Unfortunately, the Raider momentum met the hot-shooting Blake Bengals on Friday, March 6. While the Bengals' roster includes University of Maryland recruit Babatunde Oladotun – the nation's number 10 recruit in the 2026 class – he did not play as he continued to nurse an ankle injury that has sidelined him for much of the season. Oladotun was the top recruit in the 2027 class prior to reclassifying; however, the strong roster including seniors Christian Kennard, Armini Fowlkes and Eli Konkler unleashed a barrage of three-pointers from which the Raiders couldn't recover. Though Roosevelt seniors Jeremiah Rice, DeKare Tyler, Tristan King and Whitaker fought to keep the Raider season alive, eventually their run yielded to the now state champion Bengals, just as a formidable winter slowly cedes to the eternal hope of spring.

Senior Christina Kuriadom lines up a three-pointer for the state quarterfinalist Eleanor Roosevelt Lady Raiders.

- Photos by Ethan James

Senior DeKare Tyler exults after a Roosevelt victory over Wise High School during a region championship season for the Raiders.

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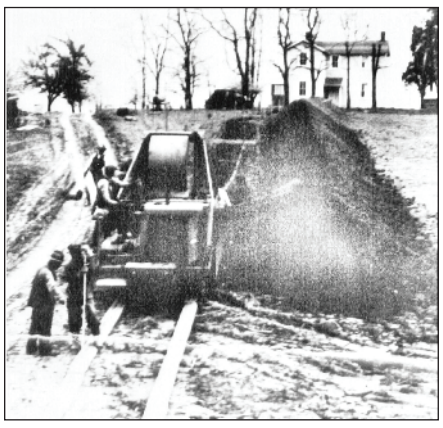
Philip Torbert Dies; He Started Life On a Farm that Became Greenbelt

by Lesley Kash

Philip Lyles "Guz" Torbert, who died on February 24, 2026, lived as a baby on his family farm that became a part of the new city of Greenbelt. (See his obituary on page 4 for more about his life). The Torbert farmhouse was located on a hillside inside the curve where Ridge and Crescent roads meet; the area is now a playground surrounded by a ring of cedar trees planted by his family. Historian Alan Virta, an early board member of the Greenbelt Museum, described research on early Greenbelt, including the Torbert farmhouse and family, in a Museum lecture on January 29, 2026 (see YouTube at youtu.be/J9FxFcv_E74).

In 1888, according to Virta, James M. Torbert bought 107 acres in what was then Berwyn and built his two-story farmhouse soon afterward. James Torbert was the father of Francis Torbert, grandfather of Neville Torbert and great-grandfather of Guz. According to memories of Guz and his siblings, the water source on the farm was a hand-dug well and the family raised hundreds of hogs, with pens located between the farmhouse and what later became Center School (Bill Garren, letter to the editor, January 12, 2017). Three generations of Torberts worked the farm, though they also had homes in Washington where they lived and worked. Virta described a pre-Greenbelt culture where similar small farms had replaced the exhausted tobacco plantations of previous centuries, giving rise to a spacious neighborhood where farm owners gathered at each others' homes for musical evenings, church services and mutually supportive activities.

A 1930s photograph of the house where Philip Lyles "Guz" Torbert lived as a baby on the family's 107-acre farm. Guz was born on August 2, 1935; the house and farm were sold in October 1935 and became part of the new town of Greenbelt.



The Torbert farmhouse still stands in the background in about 1936 as work begins on the infrastructure for the town's water supply.

- Photos courtesy Pat Torbert Kral

Neville Torbert sold the farm to the federal government to build the new town of Greenbelt. Guz was a baby when the sale took place in 1935 and his sister, Pat Torbert Kral would be born after the move (letter to the editor, January 12, 2017). Neville moved his family to Beltsville but worked in the new town, first for the Farm Security Administration then, through the transition, for the Public Housing Administration and then for the Greenbelt Co-op. The family remained connected to Greenbelt; during the 40s and 50s Neville was a chaplain for the American Legion and Guz (as reported in the News Review September 30, 2010) had dental work done by the original Dr. McCarl.

Information in this article was drawn from Alan Virta's lecture and from the News Review archives.

A Review

GAC's The View from the Bridge Is a Complex Play, Well Acted

by Melissa Sites

Director Stephen Cox leads a powerful cast through a gut-wrenching performance of a modern classic, Arthur Miller's The View from the Bridge, at Greenbelt Arts Center. This tragedy focuses on a complex set of themes of family, love, respect, a good name, betrayal and law vs. justice.

Jim Adams is a looming thunderstorm as Eddie Carbone, a longshoreman who lives and works in 1955 Brooklyn. Adams seems made for this role, honestly depicting Eddie's dedication to his family and his love and aspirations for his niece by marriage, Katie, played with delightful innocence by Gillian van Ditta. Eddie has raised his niece since childhood, but cannot let her go. Adams brings skill and power to Eddie's helplessness, fear and rage, flooding the audience with an inexorable sense of looming destruction.

When two of his wife's cousins from Italy – Marco, given solemn intensity by Daniel Dausman, and Rodolpho, played with fresh-faced lightness by Ephraim Robinson – arrive from Italy without papers, this destructive avalanche begins to rumble downhill, with Eddie's jealous love for his niece as the inciting snowball. Adriana Ganci plays Eddie's wife Beatrice with dignity and presence. Ganci is steady as a rock, but Beatrice's good advice to both her husband and their adopted daughter fails to anchor her family against this disaster.

Arthur Miller is recognized as one of America's great playwrights, with his Death of a Salesman winning the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1949. During the early 1950s, Miller was named by director Elia Kazan before the House Un-American Activities Committee for his involvement with communism. Miller regarded Kazan as a "stool-pigeon" and was held in contempt of Congress for refusing to name anyone in his own testimony. Miller was blacklisted, had his passport revoked and faced a fine and jail time (later overturned). Against this background Miller wrote two more plays that have been incredibly powerful – The Crucible (1953), set during the Salem witch trials, and this play, The View from the Bridge, set during 1955. Miller's revoked passport prevented him from seeing the opening of this play in London.

What drives a man to betray his own deeply held beliefs? Duty to family and his good name in the community mean everything to Eddie, but he unravels as he watches his beloved niece getting closer to the attractive young Rodolpho, who is blond, who can sing, who spends money on shoes and records and a nice jacket. The young man is frivolous, "a punk" and "not right" according to Eddie, who cannot clearly see why he hates this interloper so much. Adams wrings his cap in heart-breaking consultations with the attorney Mr. Alfieri (Brett Fishburne) – the large, powerful working man begging the seated attorney for help. Alfieri can offer Eddie no justice through the law; Fishburne delivers his predictions of tragedy with simple heart, just as unable to prevent the horror he sees unfolding as Eddie is to stop himself. The character of Alfieri can be viewed as a Greek chorus as he watches and laments, but cannot stop what's happening. As the tragedy reaches its climax, Marco's answering demand for justice cannot be satisfied by American law, as Alfieri helplessly explains. The play touches on themes of undocumented immigration, but just as powerfully demonstrates community norms of loyalty against betrayal, showing that law does not always bring justice.

A View from the Bridge shows at Greenbelt Arts Center through March 21. Visit greenbeltartscenter.org for tickets or more information.

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or waiting outside the city center, finishing my call in a Safeway parking lot, then driving home." Fritz also mentioned that it could discourage people from moving to Greenbelt.

Cellular Coverage

City officials said the meeting was intended to help identify both immediate steps and longer-term solutions to the coverage issues. Carriers explained that cellular coverage relies on a combination of frequencies across low, mid and high radio spectrum bands. Lower frequencies travel farther and penetrate buildings more effectively but carry less data, while higher frequencies can deliver faster speeds but cover smaller areas. "By combining all three, we kind of give you the best experience," said Sharrad Hayes, a representative for T-Mobile.

Coverage can also be affected by terrain, building density and the distance between antennas. Carriers said some residents may experience weaker signals if their phones do not support newer network bands. "If your device doesn't support it, you're missing 60 percent of our network resources," the Verizon representative said.

Short-term Fixes

Carriers said they will share more detailed radio frequency maps with city officials to better identify coverage gaps. In the short term, they recommended steps such as enabling wi-fi calling, installing signal extenders or upgrading phones that cannot access newer network bands.

During the meeting, Verizon representatives displayed a map showing coverage strength across the city. North and south Greenbelt consisted mostly of "fair" coverage, the lowest of the three tiers. Areas along 495 were largely "best" coverage, the highest tier, while historic Greenbelt was mainly "good" coverage, the middle tier.

Engineers will conduct field testing in areas where residents have reported poor service. If adjustments such as antenna changes do not resolve the problem, additional infrastructure may be required. Improving coverage often begins by identifying a "search ring," or geographic zone where signal performance is weakest. Carriers then look for property owners willing to host equipment and determine whether smaller installations can solve the problem or whether a new site is needed.

Alternatives

If a new tower or antenna site is required, the process can take up to two years because of regulatory approvals, lease negotiations and community input, according to carriers.

City officials said they would prefer to use existing public facilities before constructing new towers. Potential options include installing antennas on city buildings, placing small cell equipment on utility poles or hosting infrastructure on city-owned land such as Northway Fields.

However, officials said the city currently lacks much of the infrastructure typically used to support telecommunications equipment. "There are some real infrastructure challenges. We don't have any infrastructure that is needed for setting up telecom, power poles, the towers," City Manager Josué Salmerón said.

Officials also discussed the possibility of building a shared tower on city property if other solutions fail. "We own [Northway Fields]. So, when the question came up at the council worksession, what are the options? How do we build a tower here and invite all the carriers?" asked Salmerón.

Officials acknowledged that new infrastructure proposals can generate community concerns about aesthetics or location. Residents also emphasized the importance of reliable service during emergencies, particularly if power outages or internet disruptions prevent the use of wi-fi calling. Carriers said emergency calls connect through whichever signal is strongest at the moment, regardless of the user's network. "When you dial 911, you will connect to 911," the Verizon representative said. "Your call is going to connect on whatever signal is strongest."

Report Poor Service

City officials encouraged residents experiencing poor service to provide their addresses and device information so the reports can be forwarded to carriers for investigation. Officials said gathering detailed information from residents will help the city coordinate with carriers and track problem areas. "We need to make sure that we know the information that we want to collect and then figure out a mechanism to collect it and collate it," Councilmember Kristen Weaver said. "This will be an ongoing thing."

"Your advocacy is helping us advocate for you," the Verizon representative told residents. "So, thank you so much for this."

City staff said they will continue working with carriers and residents to monitor coverage issues and share updates as potential improvements are identified. Residents can also report problems directly to their carriers. Verizon customers can dial *611 from their mobile phones or call 1-800-922-0204 to report outages or coverage gaps, while T-Mobile customers can dial 611 to report dropped calls or weak signals.

AT&T representatives did not attend the meeting.

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PHOTO BY ANNE GARDNER

A row of turtles on a log at Greenbelt Lake